pe a plus sign (+) inside this box

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031**

Patent and Trademark Office: Use, to extend to a collection of information unless the continuous and Con

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid CMB control number.

stitute for form 1449A/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

'EMENT BY APPLICANT
(use as many sheets as necessary)

of 1

equited to respond to a dedecement of thick metal of the content of a valid CATE Content in the content of the					
Complete if Known					
Application Number	10/718,031				
Filing Date	November 19, 2003				
First Named Inventor	Mark L. DiOrio				
Group Art Unit	2829				
Examiner Name	Jimmy Nguyen P. Patel				
Attorney Docket Number	MTB005US1P				

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS U.S. Patent Document Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document Date of Publication of Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Examiner Passages or Relevant Figures Appear Kind Code² Cited Documen MM-DD-YYYY (if known) 6,551,844 Eldridge et al. 04-22-2003 ALL 6,426,639 07-30-2002 ALL Farnworth et al. 5,604,446 Sano 02-18-1997 ALL 5,289,631 Koopman et al. 03-01-1994 ALL 5,055,778 Okubo et al. 10-08-1991 ALL

				FOREIG	N PATENT DOCU	MENTS		
Examiner	C:1-	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines,	
Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
_					\			
						· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
_								
			<u> </u>					
							,	
		1				I \		

Examiner Signature	/Paresh Patel/	Date Considered	11/17/2006	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the senal number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Class/ Sub. ase type a plus sign (+) inside this box

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031*
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

stitute for form 1449A/PTO

ENT & TRADE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

 Complete if Known

 Application Number
 10/718,031

 Filing Date
 November 19, 2003

 First Named Inventor
 Mark L. DiOrio

 Group Art Unit
 2829

 Examiner Name
 Jimmy Nguyen
 P. Patel

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Attorney Docket Number MTB005US1P

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS U.S. Patent Document Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document Date of Publication of Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Cite No.1 Examine Kind Code² Cited Document Passages or Relevant Initials ' Number MM-DD-YYYY Figures Appear (if known) 5,808,474 Hively et al. 09-15-1998 ALL PP 2. 6,292,007 B1 09-18-2001 Potter ALL

Class/ sub.

\ıZ	
W	
•	

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines,		
Initials*	No.1	Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Тв
PP	3	EP	0845677	A1	W.L. Gore & Associates	06-03-1998	ALL	
				-				
		 		<u> </u>	·			
		ļ		Ī				
		 		+		 		

Examiner Signature	/Paresh Patel/	Date Considered	11/17/2006
Signature		Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.